1976 annual report

(2) Hunter Douglas Group

Consumer products



Flexalum



crown®

Building and Architectural products

LUXALON®



Nedal RODIAC® PERMAUM®

Precision machinery





Hunter Douglas Group

TEN YEAR SUMMARY

| U.S. dollars (millions, except for per share data) | 1976 | 1975 | 1974 | 1973 | 1972 | 1971 | 1970 | 1969 | 1968 | 1967 |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Net sales | 356.0 | 339.8 | 348.3 | 294.5 | 223.5 | 179.5 | 129.8 | 107.7 | 87.3 | 68.9 |
| Income from operations | 31.2 | 24.0 | 25.9 | 23.3 | 18.7 | 16.6 | 13.7 | 11.7 | 10.3 | 7.1 |
| Net income | 15.4 | 4.4 | 9.8 | 11.6 | 8.7 | 7.3 | 6.3 | 6.0 | 5.1 | 3.4 |
| Net income per common/deferred share * (after preferred dividends) | 2.18 | .62 | 1.39 | 1.65 | 1.24 | 1.03 | .90 | .88 | .78 | .52 |
| Cash flow | 25.8 | 16.7 | 19.8 | 20.2 | 16.2 | 13.7 | 12.3 | 10.5 | 9.1 | 6.5 |
| Cash flow per common/deferred share * | 3.64 | 2.36 | 2.80 | 2.86 | 2.31 | 1.95 | 1.75 | 1.56 | 1.41 | 1.00 |
| Working capital ratio | 2,09 | 1.95 | 1.79 | 1.55 | 1.73 | 1.53 | 1.59 | 1.75 | 1.63 | 1.97 |
| Shareholders' equity □ | 105.8 | 87.8 | 83.4 | 74.4 | 67.9 | 59.0 | 51.7 | 46.3 | 33.5 | 29.3 |
| Shareholders' equity ☐ per common/deferred share | 14.94 | 13.03 | 12.97 | 11.93 | 11.09 | 9.89 | 8.95 | 7.86 | 6.19 | 5.23 |
| Expenditures on property, plant and equipment | 11.7 | 8.3 | 16.9 | 25.1 | 10.4 | 9.9 | 9.2 | 6.2 | 5.3 | 3.4 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 7.8 | 8.5 | 8.7 | 7.0 | 6.0 | 4.9 | 4.1 | 3.0 | 2.6 | 2.3 |
| Average number of common and deferred shares outstanding during year (in thousands) * | 7,075 | 7,070 | 7,061 | 7,054 | 7,039 | 7,017 | 7,013 | 6,753 | 6,480 | 6,474 |

^{*} adjusted for splits and stock dividends

| Dutch guilders | 1976 | 1975 | 1974 | 1973 | 1972 | 1971 | 1970 | 1969 | 1968 | 1967 |
|---------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| (millions, except for per share data) | | | | | | | | | | |

The Dutch guilder amounts are shown for information purposes only.

The Group's business is transacted predominantly in other currencies than U.S. dollars. For income reporting purposes these other currencies are translated into U.S. dollars at the average rates of exchange during each year. The financial information below has been obtained by translation of the U.S. dollar totals into Dutch guilders at the same average rates as used in the compilation of the U.S. dollar income statement.

| Net sales | 935.6 | 860.2 | 928.4 | 814.8 | 717.1 | 624.2 | 469.2 | 390.6 | 315.9 | 248.2 |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Income from operations | 82.2 | 60.9 | 69.1 | 64.4 | 59.9 | 57.8 | 49.7 | 42.3 | 37.4 | 25.4 |
| Net income | 40.5 | 11.1 | 26.1 | 32.1 | 28.0 | 25.2 | 22.9 | 21.7 | 18.5 | 12.3 |
| Net income per common/deferred share * (after preferred dividends) | 5.73 | 1.56 | 3.69 | 4.55 | 3.98 | 3.60 | 3.26 | 3.17 | 2.84 | 1.86 |
| Cash flow | 67.7 | 42.2 | 52.7 | 55.8 | 52.1 | 47.5 | 44.3 | 37.0 | 32.1 | 22.5 |
| Cash flow per common/deferred share * | 9.57 | 5.97 | 7.46 | 7.91 | 7.40 | 6.77 | 6.32 | 5.47 | 4.95 | 3.48 |

^{*} adjusted for splits and stock dividends.

[□] after charging the book value of intangible assets starting 1973 and crediting unrealized exchange gains starting 1975

1976 was a successful year for the Hunter Douglas Group. We did achieve record levels of sales - U.S.\$ 355,972,212 compared to U.S.\$ 339,798,637 in 1975 - net income - U.S.\$ 15.419,869 compared to U.S.\$ 4,365,506 in 1975 - and net earnings per share - U.S.\$ 2.18 compared to U.S.\$ 0.62 in 1975. The Group has thus re-established its historic growth trend.

The profit improvement primarily reflects the successful completion of the Group's restructuring program. As previously explained in the 1975 interim and year-end reports, the non-recurring costs associated with this program substantially reduced 1974 and 1975 results.

The comparison between 1976 and 1975 sales understates the sales increase achieved in our principal operations. Our 1976 sales figures reflect the discontinuation of certain activities in connection with our restructuring program and the exclusion from consolidated sales of the HD-Ekco and Favorit Türenwerke operations, which, under our policy concerning 50/50 joint ventures, are now accounted for on the equity method.

Consistent with prior practice, results are stated in our historic reporting currency, U.S. dollars, and converted from other currencies at the average rates of exchange prevailing during the reporting period (Dutch guilder amounts are given on page 1 for information only).

Consumer, building and architectural products represented 81% of sales, with precision machinery accounting for the balance.

55% of our sales went to Europe, 21% to Australia and New Zealand, 15% to North America, 5% to Asia and Africa and 4% to South America.

The following are highlights on developments since the beginning of 1976:

- The most significant improvements were achieved by our consumer, building and architectural products operations in Europe and Canada, reflecting the success of our restructuring program and increased demand and geographic market expansion. Nevertheless, margins remained under pressure due to difficulty in offsetting cost increases.
- In order to strengthen our raw material base in the Netherlands, we are making investments to expand our aluminum scrap re-cycling facilities.
- Our precision machinery operations had a satisfactory year and maintained a sizeable order backlog despite continued reluctance by industry to commit capital investments. Our new production facilities in Porto Alegre, Brazil, are commencing production in April and finding a ready market.
- In February 1977 the Group acquired Crown Aluminum of Roxboro, North Carolina, U.S.A. Crown is a major manufacturer of aluminum siding and home improvement products, which it markets through ten wholly owned regional distribution centers and a network of independent distributors and mass merchandisers.

For the Group this represents a major step under its policy to expand operations in the United States, using its internationally established product and marketing skills. Crown's fully integrated manufacturing facilities, comprising melting, continuous casting, rolling, painting and fabricating, give Hunter Douglas a manufacturing and metal base to substantially expand its United States business and product range.

In mid-1976 the Group re-entered the United States window covering business by acquiring Flexalum, one of the market leaders. Hunter Douglas had founded this operation in the late 1940's and sold it in 1956 when it decided to concentrate on other markets.

The United States has thus again become one of the Group's major areas of operations.

- In 1976 Hunter Douglas merged its German based Graf-Elsing garage and residential doors operation with a similar German company into Favorit Türenwerke, a 50/50 owned joint venture. Favorit is achieving substantial economies by combining manufacturing, administrative, and distribution activities. In February 1977 Favorit acquired the Stahl Schanz residential steel door frame and -door business, also located in Germany, and added these complementary products to its range. With three plants, each specializing in volume production of complementary product lines, and twelve distribution centers in Germany and others in France, Belgium and the Netherlands, Favorit has become a major factor in its industry.
- Organizational changes were part of our restructuring program and have resulted in the appointment of three regional Vice Presidents responsible for our principal consumer, building and architectural products operations in their respective market areas. This has resulted in a more effective management structure.
- Working capital and debt to equity ratios again improved in spite of continued inflation. This was due to our cautious investment policy and the success of our restructuring program during the year. Our balance sheet would have shown even more improvement, had we not maintained higher than normal raw material inventories as a cushion against price fluctuations. We intend to reduce these as market conditions normalize.
- Income taxes as a percentage of consolidated pre-tax profits dropped significantly. This reflects the improvement or discontinuation of operations whose previous losses could not be offset against taxable profits and the use of prior years' tax loss carryforwards.

Messrs. E.A. Trigg and I. Suchoversky were newly elected to our Board since we issued our last annual report and Mr. W.L. Heyman, who has been a Hunter Douglas Director and Officer for many years, has resigned to accept a position in the United States. We sincerely thank him for his many contributions towards the Group's growth and development.

The Directors have recommended to increase the annual dividend from Dfl. 1.10 to Dfl. 1.20 on each common and deferred share and to give shareholders the option to receive in lieu of cash out of additional paid-in capital one new share for every twenty held. The dividend will be voted on by the June 9, 1977 shareholders' meeting and, if agreed to, will be paid in July 1977.

With its restructuring program successfully completed and more stable economic conditions expected in most of its markets, the Group is confident that its historic performance and growth trends have been re-established and that it is now well positioned to pursue new opportunities and challenges.

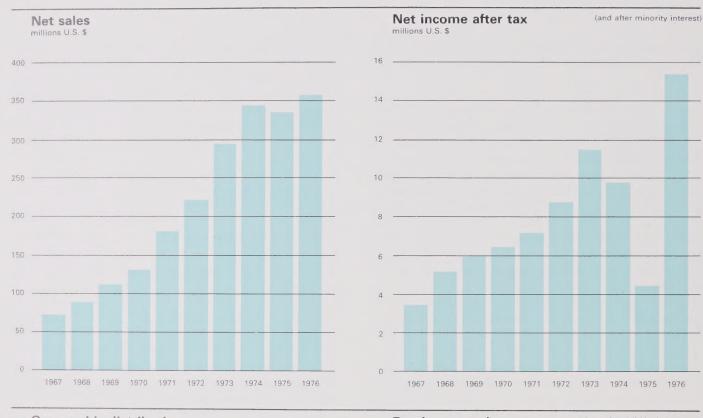
To all who work with us and whose efforts have made our progress possible, the Board and I express our sincere thanks.

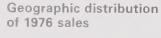
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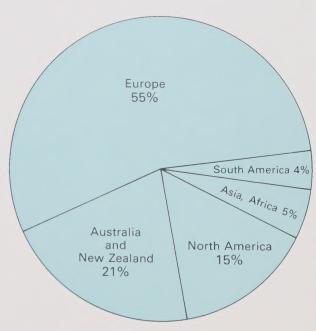
On behalf of the Board of Directors,

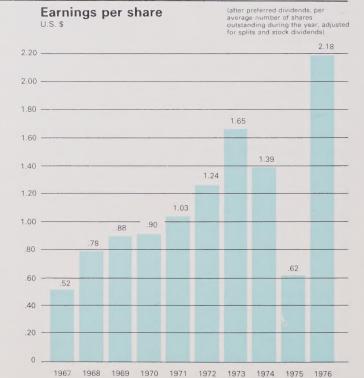
Ralph Sonnenberg President

Rotterdam, March 31, 1977









① Hunter Douglas n.v.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME

Year ended January 1, 1977 - U.S. dollars

| | 1976 | 1975 |
|---|-------------|---|
| | \$ | \$ |
| Net sales | 355,972,212 | 339,798,637 |
| Cost of sales | 247,475,075 | 236,436,752 |
| Gross profit | 108,497,137 | 103,361,885 |
| Selling, general and administrative expenses | 77,229,509 | 79,312,452 |
| ncome from operations | 31,267,628 | 24,049,433 |
| Other expenses (note 11) | 8,473,510 | 13,490,126 |
| Income before income taxes | 22,794,118 | 10,559,307 |
| Income taxes | 6,766,251 | 5,189,230 |
| Income before minority interest | 16,027,867 | 5,370,077 |
| Minority interest | 607,998 | 1,004,571 |
| Net income | 15,419,869 | 4,365,506 |
| Net income per common and deferred share | | |
| (based on the average number outstanding during the year, | | |
| adjusted for stock dividends) | \$ 2.18 | \$ 0.62 |
| CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF RETAINED EARNINGS Year ended January 1, 1977 – U.S. dollars | 1976 | 1975 |
| | | |
| | \$ | \$ |
| Balance – beginning of year | 76,223,500 | 71,907,151 |
| | 15,419,869 | 4,365,506 |
| Net income | 04 6 10 000 | 700000 |
| | 91,643,369 | |
| Dividends paid | (101,445) | (205,025 |
| | | 76,272,657 (205,025 155,868 76,223,500 |

The appended notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

① Hunter Douglas n.v. CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

January 1, 1977 - U.S. dollars

| Assets | 1976 | | 1975 |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | \$ | | \$ |
| Current assets | | | |
| Cash | 4,696,621 | 9,152,913 | |
| Notes and accounts receivable, | | | |
| less allowances \$ 6,856,724 | | | |
| (1975 - \$ 5,576,135) | 80,479,915 | 83,728,607 | |
| Inventories (note 2) | 126,220,852 | 102,319,057 | |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | 9,820,176 | 9,759,119 | |
| Total current assets | 221,217,564 | | 204,959,696 |
| | | | |
| Property, plant and equipment | | | |
| Land | 6,870,215 | 7,075,589 | |
| Buildings | 40,339,951 | 40,146,029 | |
| Machinery and equipment | 70,989,585 | 69,665,365 | |
| Cost | 118,199,751 | 116,886,983 | |
| Accumulated depreciation | 56,319,081 | 53,298,961 | |
| Property, plant and equipment, net | 61,880,670 | | 63,588,022 |
| | | | |
| Investments in and advances to | | | |
| unconsolidated subsidiaries and | | | |
| affiliated companies | 13,369,864 | | 9,976,538 |
| | | | |
| Other assets | 4,112,427 | | 4,500,790 |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | 300,580,525 | | 283,025,046 |

Signed on behalf of the Board of Directors:

R. Sonnenberg, Director

F. B. Craig, Director

| Liabilities and shareholders' equity | 1976 | | 1975 |
|---|-------------|------------|-------------|
| | \$ | | \$ |
| Current liabilities | | | |
| Bank advances | 29,423,483 | 33,726,725 | |
| Accounts payable – trade | 32,423,106 | 31,343,373 | |
| Accrued wages and other compensation | 5,570,277 | 4,698,316 | |
| Other accounts payable and accrued expenses | 24,976,272 | 25,548,697 | |
| Income taxes | 6,774,788 | 4,011,703 | |
| Long-term debt due within one year | 6,470,842 | 5,623,284 | |
| Total current liabilities | 105,638,768 | | 104,952,098 |
| Long-term liabilities | | | |
| Long-term debt (note 3) | 67,320,396 | 70,748,973 | |
| Provisions (note 4) | 15,077,179 | 12,895,438 | |
| Total long-term liabilities | 82,397,575 | | 83,644,411 |
| Total liabilities | 188,036,343 | | 188,596,509 |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| Minority interest | 6,791,742 | | 6,658,580 |
| Shareholders' equity | | | |
| Capital stock (notes 5 and 6) | 2,385,005 | 2,255,490 | |
| Additional paid-in capital (note 7) | 9,217,266 | 9,290,967 | |
| Retained earnings | 94,150,169 | 76,223,500 | |
| Total shareholders' equity | 105,752,440 | | 87,769,957 |
| | 112,544,182 | | 94,428,537 |
| | | | |
| | 300,580,525 | | 283,025,046 |

① Hunter Douglas n.v.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FINANCIAL POSITION

Year ended January 1, 1977 - U.S. dollars

| | 1976 | 1975 |
|---|-------------|--------------|
| Source of funds | \$ | \$ |
| From operations | | |
| Net income | 15,419,869 | 4,365,506 |
| Depreciation | 7,816,826 | 8,491,649 |
| Provisions, net | 2,181,741 | 3,090,860 |
| Income applicable to minority interest, | 044.000 | 740.040 |
| net of dividends paid \$ 262,999 (1975 - \$ 285,352) | 344,999 | 719,219 |
| Total working capital provided by operations | 25,763,435 | 16,667,234 |
| Sale of shares under stock option plans | 55,814 | 77,098 |
| Increase (decrease) in unrealized exchange | 2,556,327 | (5,648,571) |
| | 28,375,576 | 11,095,761 |
| Use of funds | | |
| Additions to property, plant and equipment, | | |
| net of retirements \$ 5,632,586 (1975 - \$ 4,208,025) | 6,042,566 | 4,141,478 |
| Property, plant and equipment of consolidated subsidiaries acquired | 66,908 | - |
| Decrease in minority interest | 211,837 | 829,184 |
| Increase in investments and other assets, net | 2,953,045 | 1,147,874 |
| Decrease (increase) in long-term debt, net | 3,428,577 | (4,113,472) |
| Dividends paid | 101,445 | 205,025 |
| | 12,804,378 | 2,210,089 |
| Increase in working capital | 15,571,198 | 8,885,672 |
| Changes in components of working capital | | |
| Increase (decrease) in current assets | | |
| Cash | (4,456,292) | 5,312,099 |
| Notes and accounts receivable | (3,248,692) | 4,465,961 |
| Inventories | 23,901,795 | (7,535,211) |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | 61,057 | (4,382,561) |
| Net increase (decrease) in current assets | 16,257,868 | (2,139,712) |
| Increase (decrease) in current liabilities | | |
| Bank advances | (4,303,242) | (4,903,461) |
| Accounts payable – trade | 1,079,733 | (5,087,565) |
| Other current liabilities | 3,910,179 | (1,034,358) |
| Net increase (decrease) in current liabilities | 686,670 | (11,025,384) |
| Increase in working capital | 15,571,198 | 8,885,672 |

(1) Hunter Douglas n.v.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year ended January 1, 1977 - U.S. dollars

1. SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Hunter Douglas N.V. and its wholly or majority owned subsidiaries whose operations are directly related to those of the Group. Investments in unconsolidated subsidiaries and 20-50% owned affiliated companies are stated at cost adjusted for the proportionate share in their results since acquisition. Investments in less than 20% owned affiliated companies are stated at cost. Significant intercompany transactions are eliminated.

Foreign exchange

The consolidated financial statements are expressed in U.S. dollars and have been translated from other currencies as follows: current assets and liabilities at rates of exchange at the balance sheet date; non-current assets, long-term liabilities and shareholders' equity at rates of exchange at the time of acquisition or when the debts were incurred; income and expenses, other than depreciation, at the average rates of exchange during the year.

Realized exchange gains and losses are reflected in income. Unrealized exchange gains and losses are credited or charged to retained earnings. Previously, unrealized exchange gains after deduction of unrealized exchange losses were deferred. This change in the policy of accounting for foreign exchange has no material effect on the consolidated financial statements. The 1975 balance sheet and statement of retained earnings have been restated to reflect this change.

Inventories

Finished goods and work in process are stated principally at the lower of average production cost or market. Raw materials are stated principally at the lower of cost (on a first-in, first-out basis) or market.

Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation, calculated principally on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets. When assets are sold, retired or otherwise disposed of, their cost and related accumulated depreciation are removed from the accounts, and gains or losses are recognized in other expenses.

Intangible assets

The cost of intangible assets, including the excess of cost of investments in subsidiaries over net assets at dates of acquisition, is charged to retained earnings when acquired. The excess of net assets of subsidiaries over cost at date of acquisition is added to retained earnings.

Research and development

Research and development costs are expensed as incurred.

Pensions

The Group has several pension plans covering most employees. Prior service costs are amortized over periods up to 40 years. Pension plans are independently funded or accrued.

Deferred taxes

Deferred taxes reflect differences between book and tax reporting of certain items, principally depreciation, pension costs and the valuation of inventories entering into the computation of cost of sales.

General

Except as otherwise stated, assets and liabilities are shown at the values at which they were acquired or incurred.

| 2. INVENTORIES | 1976 | 1975 \$ |
|---|---|--------------------------|
| Finished goods Work in process Raw materials | 49,952,876 28,165,572 48,102,404 126,220,852 | 39,924,030 |
| 3. LONG-TERM DEBT | 1976 \$ | 1975 \$ |
| $3^{1}/_{2}\%$ to $11^{7}/_{8}\%$ unsecured loans and notes payable, maturing in various instalments through 1993 | 45,141,217 | * |
| $5^{1}/_{2}\%$ to $9^{1}/_{2}\%$ mortgage loans, maturing in various instalments through 1999 | 2,204,179 | 3,300,189 |
| 10% bonds (Dfl. 50 million) maturing in equal annual instalments from 1981 through 1985 | 19,975,000 67,320,396 | 19,975,000 70,748,973 |

The aggregate maturities of the long-term debt for the next five years are: 1977 - \$6,470,842; 1978 - \$8,023,508; 1979 - \$5,921,206; 1980 - \$5,483,756; 1981 - \$10,375,818.

4. PROVISIONS

Include provisions for warranties of \$3,078,674 (1975 - \$3,033,673), pensions of \$4,794,097 (1975 - \$4,526,351), deferred taxes of \$6,164,443 (1975 - \$3,829,759) and other of \$1,039,965 (1975 - \$1,505,655).

5. CAPITAL STOCK

Common shares of Dfl. 1 par value each

Authorized 10.000,000 shares

| 7.0007.0007.000 | Shares | \$ |
|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Issued and fully paid | | |
| January 3, 1976 | 1,287,407 | 426,549 |
| Converted from deferred shares | | |
| January 9, 1976 | 1,677,897 | 627,838 |
| Stock dividend July 12, 1976 | 144,311 | 54,906 |
| Stock options exercised | 7,500 | 2,830 |
| Issued and fully paid | | |
| January 1, 1977 | 3,117,115 | 1,112,123 |
| | | |

Deferred shares of Dfl. 1 par value each

Authorized 6,000,000 shares

| Issued and fully paid January 3, 1976 | 5,451,136 | 1,828,941 |
|---|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| Converted into common shares January 9, 1976 Stock dividend July 12, 1976 | (1 ,677,897) 188.659 | (627,838) 71,779 |
| Issued and fully paid January 1, 1977 | 3,961,898 7,079,013 | 1,272,882 2,385,005 |

Deferred shares are convertible into common shares at the option of the holders on a one for one basis.

Hunter Douglas Canada Limited, a subsidiary, has 104,167 Can. \$ 14 par value voting cumulative preferred shares outstanding with non-related persons. These shares are exchangeable prior to December 31, 1990 one for one into common shares of Hunter Transplas N.V. This minority interest, amounting to Can. \$ 450,338, is offset against the carrying value of an equal numform of the Company's common shares held by another subsidiary for future exchanges of these preferred shares.

6. STOCK OPTIONS TO DIRECTORS, OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

he following options to purchase common shares were outnding on January 1, 1977:

| Number of | Price per share | Exercisable before |
|--|--|--|
| 3,150 3,500 750 62,750 38,000 750 2,000 16,000 2,000 28,000 | Dfl. 32.72 Dfl. 20.20 Dfl. 20.20 Dfl. 34.00 Dfl. 22.50 Dfl. 20.20 Dfl. 18.45 Dfl. 17.50 Dfl. 17.80 Dfl. 24.00 Dfl. 22.40 | January 24, 1977 May 30, 1977 May 30, 1978 November 28, 1978 January 7, 1980 May 30, 1980 June 20, 1980 October 1, 1980 November 24, 1980 January 19, 1981 August 26, 1981 |
| 2,500 162 July | Dfl. 25.00 | October 15, 1981 |

34,241 common shares were reserved for future option grants.

Also outstanding on January 1, 1977 were options to purchase 79,000 shares of an Australian subsidiary for Australian \$ 3 each, exercisable before July 26, 1977.

7. ADDITIONAL PAID-IN CAPITAL

| | 1976 | 1975 |
|---------------------------------|-----------|---|
| | \$ | \$ |
| Beginning of year | 9,290,967 | 9,336,658 |
| Stock dividend | | |
| Common shares | (54,906) | (16,879) |
| Deferred shares | (71,779) | (102,535) |
| Excess of proceeds of stock | , , , | , |
| option exercises over par value | 52,984 | 73,723 |
| End of year | 9,217,266 | 9,290,967 |
| | | |

Under present Dutch practice, substantially all additional paid-in capital may be distributed as stock dividends free from Netherlands income and withholding tax.

8. EXCHANGE REGULATIONS

Funds in certain countries in which the Group operates are subject to varying exchange regulations. No significant restrictions exist on transfers of a current nature, such as dividends from subsidiaries. A few countries have more severe restrictions on remittances of a capital nature.

9. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

- (a) On January 1, 1977 commitments for capital expenditures amounted to \$ 1,865,000.
- (b) Through two subsidiaries Hunter Douglas N.V. has a limited minority interest in a partnership and has guaranteed repayment of their pro-rata share (approximately \$ 17,376,000 to 1992) of certain long-term financing of the partnership.
- (c) Annual rentals under long-term leases expiring at varying dates to 2061 amount to \$1,276,000 in 1977 and decrease thereafter.
- (d) Other contingencies exist in respect of discounted bills, guarantees of bank loans to unconsolidated subsidiaries and other guarantees. There are pending claims against Group companies on which no losses are expected.

10. RETAINED EARNINGS

The \$ 2,608,245 credit to retained earnings due to other changes represents:

- (a) \$ 2,556,327 credit for unrealized exchange gains.
- (b) \$222,229 credit for the acquisition of additional shares in a majority owned subsidiary at less than their net asset value, due to exercise of conversion rights under long-term loans previously advanced to this subsidiary.
- (c) \$ 170,311 charge for the cost of intangible assets related to a new subsidiary.

11. OTHER EXPENSES

Include principally interest on long-term debt of \$6,922,767 (1975 – \$6,875,813), interest on short-term debt of \$4,674,748 (1975 – \$6,515,977), interest income of \$1,656,557

(1975 - \$2,252,494) and realized net foreign exchange gains of \$463,613 (1975 - loss \$18,391).

12. COMPENSATION

Total salaries, wages and social charges amounted to \$83,775,000 (1975 -\$87,924,000), which includes pension expense of \$2,179,000 (1975 -\$2,607,000).

AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Shareholders of Hunter Douglas N.V.

We have examined the consolidated balance sheet of Hunter Douglas N.V. and subsidiaries as at January 1, 1977 and the related consolidated statements of income, retained earnings and changes in financial position for the year ended January 1, 1977.

In our opinion, the aforementioned consolidated financial statements present fairly the financial position of Hunter Douglas N.V. and subsidiaries at January 1, 1977 and the results of their operations and changes in financial position for the year then ended.

Rotterdam, March 31, 1977

Coopers & Lybrand Nederland, Accountants

TRUSTEE'S REPORT

To the Holders of 10% Bonds in the 1975 Face Value Dfl. 50.000.000 Loan to Hunter Douglas N.V., Organized as a Corporation under the Laws of the Netherlands Antilles.

In accordance with the trust-deed for the above bond issue the undersigned hereby reports on its activities concerning the fiscal year ended on January 1, 1977.

- 1. Payment of interest on the bonds during the period under review took place in conformity with the prescriptions of the trust-deed of November 26, 1974.
- 2. The debtor has confirmed to the Trustee by letter dated February 25, 1977 that during the period under review it has not violated article 13 of the trust-deed and furthermore that no other circumstances meant in article 13 of the trust-deed have arisen.
- 3. The Kassas Trust B.V. was appointed as the institution charged with maintaining the exchange depot provided for in Article 1, paragraph 3, of the trust-deed.
- 4. Since compulsory redemptions will start only on January 15, 1981, and early redemptions pursuant to Article 3, paragraph 5, of the trust-deed did not take place, the outstanding amount as per January 1, 1977 remained unchanged Dfl. 50.000.000.

Amsterdam, March 3, 1977

NEDERLANDSCHE TRUST-MAATSCHAPPIJ B.V.

(signed) Dr. H.H. Scholten (signed) G. Hooijschuur

(1) Hunter Douglas n.v.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OFFICERS GENERAL DATA

On March 31, 1977

Board of Directors

H. Sonnenberg, London, England, Chairman of the Board, Hunter Douglas N.V.

J.H. Coleman, Toronto, Canada, Director, Deputy Chairman (retired), The Royal Bank of Canada

F.B. Craig, Wassenaar, Netherlands, Executive Vice President, Hunter Douglas N.V.

Dr. E.L. Joubert, Willemstad, Curação, Notary

Prof. Dr. C.F. Karsten, Laren, Netherlands, Managing Director, Amsterdam-Rotterdam Bank N.V.

M.O.L. Lynton, Wassenaar, Netherlands, Vice President, Hunter Douglas N.V.

A.C. Pond, Longueville, Australia, Deputy Chairman, Hunter Douglas Limited (Australia)

R. Sonnenberg, Wassenaar, Netherlands, President and Chief Executive Officer, Hunter Douglas N.V.

I. Suchoversky, Geneva, Switzerland, Area General Manager-Europe, Alcan Aluminium (Europe) S.A.

E.A. Trigg, Montreal, Canada, Director and Executive Vice President, Alcan Aluminium Limited

Officers

R. Sonnenberg*, Wassenaar, Netherlands

F.B. Craig*, Wassenaar, Netherlands

J.L. Bruhl, 's-Gravenhage, Netherlands

H.G. Hamburger, Brisbane, Australia

Y.J. Heesterbeek, 's-Gravenhage, Netherlands

J.A. Kay, Montreal, Canada

M.O.L. Lynton*, Wassenaar, Netherlands

G. Orechkoff, 's-Gravenhage, Netherlands

E. Lissone, Middelharnis, Netherlands

President and Chief Executive Officer

Executive Vice President

Vice President and Treasurer

Vice President-Australasian Operations

Vice President-European Operations

Vice President-North American Operations

Vice President, Corporate Relations

Vice President and General Counsel

Secretary

General data

Principal administrative office:

Registered office:

Organized as a corporation under the laws of: Registered with the Chamber of Commerce:

Shares quoted on stock exchanges of:

for common shares in bearer form:

Piekstraat 2, Rotterdam, Netherlands. De Ruyterkade 58a, Willemstad, Curação.

Netherlands Antilles.

Rotterdam (Nr. 117994) and Curacao.

Amsterdam, Netherlands and Toronto, Canada.

Depositary and dividend disbursement agents Amsterdam-Rotterdam Bank NV, Amsterdam,

The Hague, Rotterdam - Netherlands;

Pierson, Heldring & Pierson, Amsterdam, The Hague,

Rotterdam - Netherlands,

Société Générale de Banque SA Brussels - Belgium;

Société Générale, Paris - France;

Deutsche Bank AG., Frankfurt - Germany;

Schweizerischer Bankverein, Basel - Switzerland.

Montreal Trust Company, Montreal, Toronto,

Calgary, Regina, St. John, Vancouver, Winnipeg -Canada.

Canadian registers:

Registrar, transfer agent and depositary for common shares in name form issued on

^{*} Is also member of Board of Directors

(2) Hunter Douglas Group

Unless otherwise stated, the Group interest in the companies listed below is greater than 95%. Some branch offices and a number of companies, which, in the aggregate, account for less than 15% of the total book value of the Group's assets, are not included.

Australia

Hunter Douglas Limited, Sydney (64%)
Adelaide-Melbourne-Newcastle
Brisbane-Cairns-Hobart-Perth-Townsville

Austria

Hunter Douglas, Vienna

Belgium

Hunter Douglas Belgium N.V., Genk-Brussels Hunter Douglas Packaging, Genk HD-EKCO N.V., Genk (50%)

Brazil

Hunter Douglas do Brasil S.A., Sao Paulo Wotan Macquiñas Operatrizes Ltda., Porto Alegre

Canada

Hunter Douglas Canada Limited, Montreal
Dartmouth-Edmonton-Hamilton-KitchenerLondon-Quebec City-Toronto
Hunter Douglas Building Materials, Montreal
Kitchener-North Bay-Quebec City-Toronto
Hunter Douglas Architectural Products, Montreal
Edmonton-Toronto-Vancouver
Hunter Douglas Export, Montreal
Home Development Corporation, Montreal

Chile

Industrias Metalicas Chile S.A., Santiago (50%)

Colombia

Hunter Douglas S.A., Bogotá

France

Hunter Douglas s.a.r.l., Paris

Hunter Douglas G.m.b.H., Düsseldorf

Wotan-Werke G.m.b.H., Düsseldorf

Germany

Favorit Türenwerke G.m.b.H. & Co. K.G. (50%)
Krefeld-Castrup/Rauxel-Mühlheim
Rodiac G.m.b.H., Düsseldorf
Wewag Westdeutsche Werkzeugmaschinen G.m.b.H.,
Düsseldorf/Langenfeld-Bremen

Italy

Promes S.R.L., Milan

Japan

Nippon Hunter Douglas K.K., Yokohama (54%)

Malaysia

Austasia Industries (Malaysia) Sdn Berhad, Kuala Lumpur (64%)

The Netherlands

Hunter Douglas N.V., Rotterdam
Hunter Douglas Europe B.V.,
Rotterdam-Leek-Oudenbosch
Laagland, Rotterdam
Nederlandse Gereedschappenfabriek N.G.F. B.V.,
Hoogeveen
Nederlandse Aluminium Maatschappij Nedal B.V.,
Utrecht
Rodiac v.o.f., Leek, Rotterdam
Walker International B.V., Deurne-Harkema

Netherlands Antilles

Hunter Douglas International N.V., Curação

New Zealand

Hunter Douglas Limited, Auckland (64%)

Singapore

Austasia Industries (Pte.) Limited, Singapore (64%)

South Africa

Hunter Douglas South Africa, Johannesburg

Spain

Hunter Douglas (Espana) S.A., Barcelona

Sweden

Hunter Douglas (Scandinavia) A.B., Goteborg-Stockholm

Switzerland

Hunter Douglas Enterprise A.S., Lugano Promesa A.G., Lucerne

United Kingdom

Hunter Douglas Limited, Walton-on-Thames Soag Machinery Limited, Brentford

U.S.A.

Hunter Douglas Inc., Totowa, N.J. Flexalum, Totowa, N.J. Crown Aluminum, Roxboro, N.C. Hunter Douglas Machinery Corp., Totowa, N.J.

A Dutch version of this Annual Report is available upon request.